SN-US000588

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

13 day

In re Application of

Takeshi IKUTA

Patent Art Unit: 3654

; (

Serial No.: 09/986,689

Examiner: Evan H. Langdon

Filed: November 9, 2001.

For:

DUAL-BEARING REEL

DECLARATION OF NOBORU SAKAGUCHI UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 2 1 2004

Sir:

GROUP 3600

I, Noboru Sakaguchi, hereby unequivocally stipulate and declare that the following statement of facts is true and correct.

(Translation in Japanese)1

私、阪口昇は、下記に記載される全ての事柄が正確な事実であることを宣誓致します。

STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. I have been an employee of Shimano, Inc. for more than ten years. My duties at Shimano include development of fishing reel and administration of patent applications relating to fishing reels.

(Translation in Japanese)

私は、株式会社シマノに10年以上勤めており、釣用リール関連の特許出願の管理および釣用リールの開発を担当しています。

EXHIBIT A

¹ Each English paragraph of this Declaration is followed by a Japanese translation of the preceding English paragraph. Also, attached is a Declaration of Maiko Tomioka, which attests to the truthfulness and the completeness of the Japanese translations of the English paragraphs.

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2. Based on my knowledge and experience as one engaged in manufacturing of fishing reels, I believe that Penn Reel's International and Senator reels are designed to be mounted to a fishing rod from above the fishing rod.

(Translation in Japanese)

釣用リールの製造に携わる者としての知識と経験に基づき、私は、ペン・リール社のインターナショナルおよびセネター・モデルのリールは釣竿の上側から釣竿に取り付けられるよう設計されていると考えます。

3. Based on my knowledge and experience as one engaged in manufacturing of fishing reels, I believe that the reels shown in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,166,269 and 4,688,346 are designed to be mounted to a fishing rod from above the fishing rod.

(Translation in Japanese)

釣用リールの製造に携わる者としての知識と経験に基づき、私は、米国特許 3,166,269 及び 4,688,346 のリールは釣竿の上側から釣竿に取り付けられるよう設計されていると考えます。

4. Based on my knowledge and experience as one engaged in manufacturing of fishing reels, I have never seen a reel having a drag lever, such as a trolling reel, that is designed to be mounted to a fishing rod from below the fishing rod, except for those disclosed in the present patent application.

(Translation in Japanese)

釣用リールの製造に携わる者としての知識と経験に基づき、私は、トローリング・リールのようなドラグレバーを有するリールで、釣竿の下側から釣竿に取り付けられるようになっているリールを、本願のリール以外に見たことがありません。

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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(Translation in Japanese)

私は、私自身の知識に基づいて本宜言書中で私が行う表明が真実であり、かつ私の入手した情報と私の信じるところに基づく表明が全て真実であると信じていること、さらに故意になされた虚偽の表明及びそれと同等の行為は、米国法典第18編第1001条に基づき、罰金または拘禁、もしくはその両方により処罰されること、そしてそのような故意による虚偽の声明を行えば、出願したまたは既に発行された特許の有効性が失われることを認識し、よってここに上記のごとく宣誓を致します。

Respectfully submitted,

Ву:

Name: Noboru Sakagi

Dated: Jan. 13, 2004

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